R E M A R K S

The Examiner rejects claims 27-31, 33-34, 36, and 38 under 35 U.S.C. §103 with a new combination of references – namely Bernklau further in view of Koike.

Claim 27 distinguishes at least by reciting that the received error states are combined to form a temporally successive error state pattern caused by the single causative error, wherein the coordination module compares the stored temporally successive error state pattern caused by the single causative error with predetermined error state patterns, each predetermined pattern defining a temporal sequence of error states of a predetermined single error type, and wherein at least one error type is determined identifying the single causative error. First the Examiner relies on column 2, lines 27-29 for a set of printer diagnostic data including printer usage information, an example of the printer usage information being shown at column 6, Table 1. The Examiner also relies on column 2, lines 40-48 discussing the rule engine wherein the printer diagnostic data broken down into components are compared to the rules wherein one rule is compared to each component. Although the usage profile does contain error data, there is no suggestion anywhere in this reference of providing an error state pattern caused by a single causative error. Nowhere is there discussion anywhere of a pattern caused by a single causative error. Although a plurality of errors may be provided in the Table 1 usage profile, there is no indication to combine temporally successive error states into a temporally successive error state pattern caused by a single causative error. And there is no discussion anywhere in the reference of comparing this temporally successive error state pattern caused by a single causative error with a predetermined error state pattern where each pattern defines a temporal sequence of error states of a predetermined single error type. Although various rules are compared to various

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components of the usage information, there is no disclosure or hint of any predetermined pattern defining a temporal sequence of error states of a predetermined single error type for the rules.

Significantly, in Bernklau, the comparison which is disclosed at column 12, lines 53-54 of Bernklau provides that "each rule compares each component with a corresponding reference value to generate a comparison result". See also the abstract. But comparing reference values as disclosed by Bernklau is not comparing predetermined error state patterns where each pattern is caused by a single causative error.

Although Bernklau at column 13, lines 36-39 talks about "analysis of combinations of usage profile tokens that present error conditions, or symptoms within a printer", there is no discussion of any such combinations being the result of a single causative error and no discussion of temporally successive error state patterns where the error states are in temporal succession to form the pattern for a single causative error.

Claim 27 also distinguishes over Bernklau since, as the Examiner agrees at the bottom of page 3 of the Office Action, Bernklau does not teach providing a plurality of separate monitoring units for creating a respective error signal. Because of the absence of this feature, there is no suggestion or teaching of a temporally successive error state pattern formed from such error signals and caused by a single causative error. Although the Examiner cites Koike for his disclosure at paragraph 0014 of a paper detector and an ink detector to monitor internal functions of a printer, Koike does not suggest the deficiencies noted above for Bernklau and therefore a combination of Koike with Bernklau does not suggest claim 27.
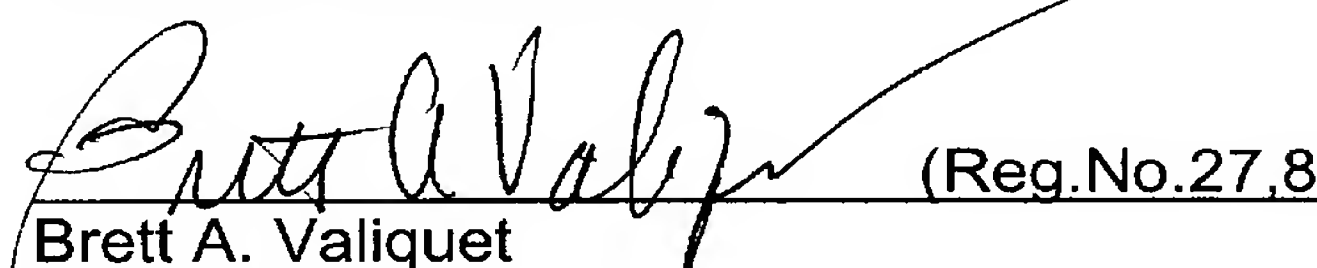
Dependent claims 28-37 distinguish at least for the reasons noted with respect to claim 27 and also by reciting additional features not suggested.

Device claim 38 distinguishes at least for the reasons with respect to claim 27.

Allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to account No. 501519.

Respectfully submitted,

(Reg.No.27,841)

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